

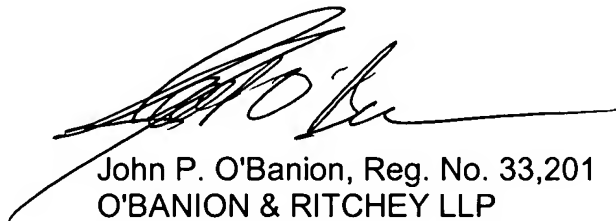
### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This First Preliminary Amendment is respectfully submitted in connection with this application which is a continuation of copending application serial number 09/963,886 (parent). In the parent case, Claims 5-10, 14-19, 29-34, 43-48, 56-16 and 69-74 were canceled due to restriction. Those claims have been canceled from this application. Also, Claims 23, 24, 28, 37, 38, 42, 50, 55, 63, 64 and 68 were found to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Those claims have been allowed in the parent case and have been canceled from this application as well. The remaining Claims 1-4, 11-13, 20-22, 25-27, 35, 36, 39-41, 49, 51-54, 62 and 65-67 were rejected in the parent case and are pending in this application.

Entry of this First Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested, as is consideration of all references of record.

Date: 3/30/04

Respectfully submitted,



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